

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USNMR SHAPE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0695

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR NATO

SUBJ: AFCENT/AAFCE STATIC WAR HEADQUARTERS

REF: MSG ECJ4/7-00411, 100911Z JAN 75

SUMMARY. AT ITS MEETING ON 6 FEB 75, THE INFRASTRUCTURE PAYMENTS AND PROGRESS (P&P) COMMITTEE CONSIDERED FRG FUND REQUEST FOR ARCHITECT ENGINEER SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE DESIGN FOR AFCENT/AAFCE STATIS WAR HEADQUARTERS. SHAPE POSITION WAS THAT FUND REQUEST WAS PREMATURE, SINCE MILITARY REQUIREMENT NOT YET COMPLETELY DEFINED. FRG AND US REPS URGED SHAPE TO EXPEDITE DEFINITION OF REQUIREMENT AND FRG AGREED TO PREFINANCE DESIGN WORK. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE P&P COMMITTEE ON 6 FEB 75, FRG PRESENTED A FUND REQUEST FOR IAU 155,500 TO COVER THE COST OF HIRING AN ARCHITECT ENGINEER (A&E) FIRM TO DESIGN SUBJECT PROJECT. THIS REQUEST WAS CHARGEABLE TO SLICE XIII/SERIAL 84 AND WAS TO COVER AN ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE OF DM 1.4 MILLION FOR A&E SERVICES, AGAINST AN OVERALL ESTIMATED NATO COST OF EQUIPMENT AND CIVIL WORKS OF DM 35 MILLION.

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2. SHAPE REP (COL FORD, US) RECOGNIZED THAT A&E SERVICES WOULD BE NEEDED BUT STATED THAT SHAPE HAD NOT YET COMPLETELY DEFINED THE MILITARY REQUIREMENT FOR THIS PROJECT. SHAPE NOTED THAT THE CONCEPT WAS UNDER NEGOTIATION

BETWEEN SHAPE, AFCENT AND AAFCE, AND STATED THAT THEREFORE HIRING OF AN A&E FIRM AT THIS POINT MIGHT BE PREMATURE, AND COULD RESULT IN ABORTIVE EXPENDITURES. SHAPE REP RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT PROJECT, AND SAW NO PROBLEM IN IMPUTATION OF THESE COSTS TO SLICE XIII/SERIAL 84. SHAPE EMPHASIZED THAT PRIMARY DIFFICULTY LAY ONLY IN FACT THAT CONCEPT OF AAFCE OPERATION WAS NOT YET CLARIFIED, AND THAT MILITARY COMMITTEE MUST APPROVE REQUIREMENT WHEN IT IS FINALLY DEFINED.

3. GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE EMPHASIZED URGENCY OF PROJECT, WHICH MILITARY COMMITTEE AND DPC HAVE ALREADY APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE, AND NOTED THAT THE FUND REQUEST FOR ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION WORKS WAS IN AN ADVANCED STATE OF PREPARATION AND COULD BE FURNISHED TO NATO WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

4. US REP STRONGLY SUPPORTED GERMAN STATEMENT REGARDING URGENCY, AND PRESSED SHAPE TO EXPEDITE DEFINITION OF MILITARY REQUIREMENT IN ORDER THAT SHAPE COULD SUPPORT PROJECT FOR FUNDING AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

5. NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF (NIS) (GURVIN) INDICATED THEY COULD NOT COMMENT ON FUND REQUEST FOR A&E SERVICES WITHOUT HAVING A FULLY DEFINED MILITARY REQUIREMENT.

6. IN VIEW OF SHAPE AND NIS NON-SUPPORT FOR FUND REQUEST FOR A&E SERVICES, GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE ASKED COMMITTEE TO NOTE AN ORAL PREFINANCING STATEMENT TO COVER A&E WORK. COMMITTEE SO NOTED, AND GRANTED EXEMPTION FROM INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURE. GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE REPEATED HIS INTEREST IN OBTAINING FINAL SHAPE POSITION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND INDICATED THAT, FAILING SHAPE SUPPORT, HIS AUTHORITIES MIGHT BE RELUCTANT TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PREFINANCING STATEMENT.

7. MISSION COMMENT. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT FURTHER CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN US USER ELEMENTS AND AFCENT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO ENSURE THAT ALL NEEDED INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO PERMIT EXPEDITIOUS COMPLETION OF SHAPE STATEMENT OF MILITARY REQUIREMENT.
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END OF COMMENT.BRUCE

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